

Discord Guide

We're glad you're joining us for Shining Hearth! The event will be held over Discord on a dedicated server. This guide will help you get set up and connected.

Quick Start

Here's a brief overview of how to join us:

1. [Create a Discord account.](#)
2. [Install the Discord software.](#) *(Optional, but recommended)*
3. [Check your audio settings.](#)
4. [Connect to the Shining Hearth server](#) using your invite link.
5. [Set your nickname.](#) *(Optional)*
6. [Allow direct messages from server members.](#) *(Recommended)*
7. [Check in](#) to get access to the public channels, and post an introduction.

To attend a scheduled event, connect to the [voice channel](#) it is being held in, and chat in the text channel that has the same name.

If you're completely new to Discord, we recommend coming to the reception on Friday from 1:30-2:30 PM CST.

How to get help

We understand that no process is perfect and you may run into issues.

Before the gather:

If you need help with anything *before* the gather, you can send an email to staff@shininghearth.net.

During the gather:

If you're connected to the Shining Hearth Discord server and need help, join the **#help-desk** channel. Let us know what you need help with and we'll get you going.

If you're having trouble getting even that far, you can still email us too!

You will need

- **A Discord account.** If you don't already have an account, it's easy to [create one](#). *Your email address will not be visible to others, but the username will be, so you may want to avoid choosing one that reveals any personal information.*

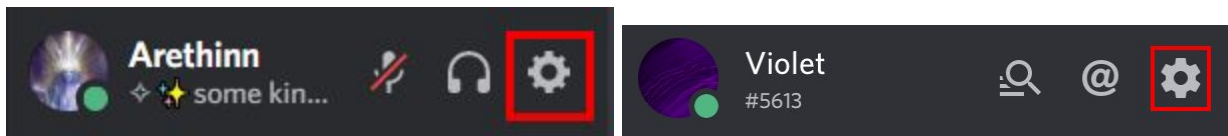
- The [Discord software](#) or a desktop web browser. Discord is available for Windows, Mac, Linux, Android, and iOS.
If you're completely new to Discord, you can try it out first in your web browser if you like. You can either continue using your browser or install Discord on your computer or mobile device - your account will work in both. We recommend installing the software for the best experience.

Get familiar with Discord

There's a handy and easy to follow guide on [wikiHow](#).

Follow this to get comfortable with Discord. (Please note that this guide's screenshots are from the web version as of August 2019.)

You can access Discord's settings by clicking the **gear** that is near your name and picture at the bottom left. (If you're in portrait mode on mobile, you may need to first tap the hamburger menu at the top left to see your server list and access the settings gear.)



(Desktop on the left, mobile on the right.)

Set up your audio

To make sure you can hear and talk to other folks, make sure your Discord audio settings are correct in the **Voice & Video** section (**Voice** on mobile).

[Here's an easy to follow video that walks you through the process.](#)

If you prefer a text guide with screenshots, [here's one from howtogeek](#).

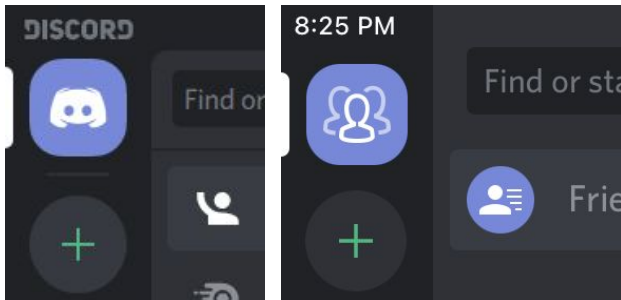
Get connected to Shining Hearth

1. Make sure you've registered for the event, so that you will receive an invitation link. If you haven't already, [fill out the attendee form](#).
Important: Use the same email address that you have set up in your Discord account.
2. Invite links for the Discord server will be sent out on February 25. Look for an email with the subject line **Invitation to join Shining Hearth**. It will contain a link that looks like

<https://discord.gg/NAH5e9MRqP>. But before you click the link...

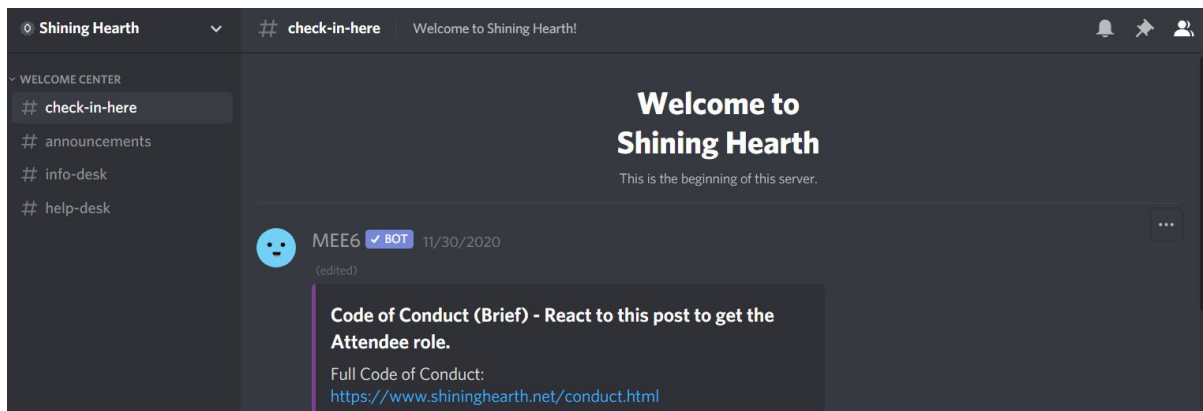
3. Open Discord and log in to your account.
4. Now click the link in the email and you will be connected to the Shining Hearth server.

Or, from within the Discord client: Click the green plus as shown below, then **Join a Server**, and paste in the invite link.

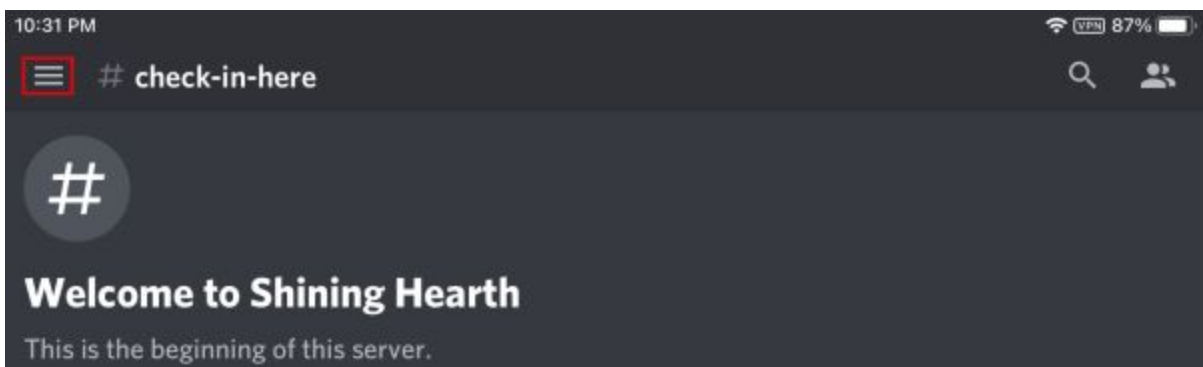


(Desktop on the left, mobile on the right.)

5. You should land in Shining's Hearth's **#check-in-here** channel. Just a few other channels will be visible in the Welcome Center category on the left:



On mobile in portrait mode, tap the hamburger button at the top left to see the channel list:



- **#check-in-here** is the place to get started.
- **#announcements** is for announcements by staff throughout the event.
- **#info-desk** has quick links to event information and a "map" describing the categories of channels.
- **#help-desk** is where you can get help or ask questions.

Optional: Set your nickname on the Shining Hearth server

You may want to use a nickname for Shining Hearth that isn't the same as the username you selected, such as a name you use in the Otherkin community.

1. Next to the server name at the top left of the screen, click the down arrow (desktop) or tap the three dots (mobile).
2. Click/tap **Change Nickname**.
3. Enter the nickname you want to use and click/tap Save.

Recommended: Allow direct messages

In the main Discord settings > Privacy & Safety, **Allow direct messages from server members** is on by default. If you decided to turn it off globally, we encourage you to allow it just for Shining Hearth so that staff can contact you privately if they need to.

On desktop:

1. Right-click the Shining Hearth server icon, or click the down arrow next to the server name.
2. Click **Privacy Settings**.
3. The box that pops up has only one option, to allow DMs from the server.

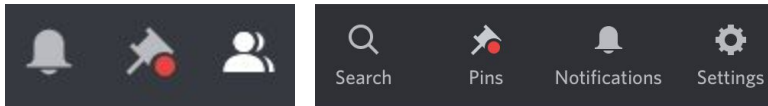
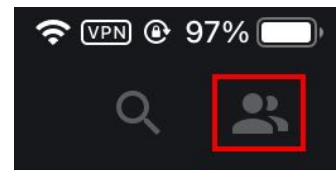
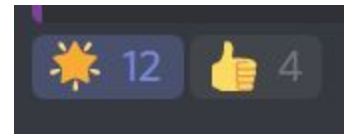
On mobile:

1. Tap the three dots next to the server name.
2. Scroll down if needed (depending on your screen size and orientation).
3. Tap the switch to allow direct messages.

Check in!

Now that you're connected to the server you just need to do a few things before you can participate:

1. **Read the message** in the **#check-in-here** channel.
2. Underneath the message, there are emoji of a star and a thumbs-up. **Click/tap either one** to react to the post. More channels will appear.
3. Go to the **#introductions** channel.
4. If you are on mobile, tap the "people heads" button at the top right to bring up the memberlist (and see the channel topic).
5. Notice that the pushpin at the top right has a **red dot**. This means the channel has Pinned Messages (or Pins) that you haven't read.



6. **Click/tap the pushpin**. This will pop up the pinned message, which has a suggested template for your introduction.
7. On desktop, you can **copy and paste the bolded text from here** into your own introduction message.

On mobile, **tap the message** to jump to it, then **long-press** the message and tap **Copy Text**. Now you can paste it into your own introduction message. (Be sure to delete "Welcome to Shining Hearth!", etc.)

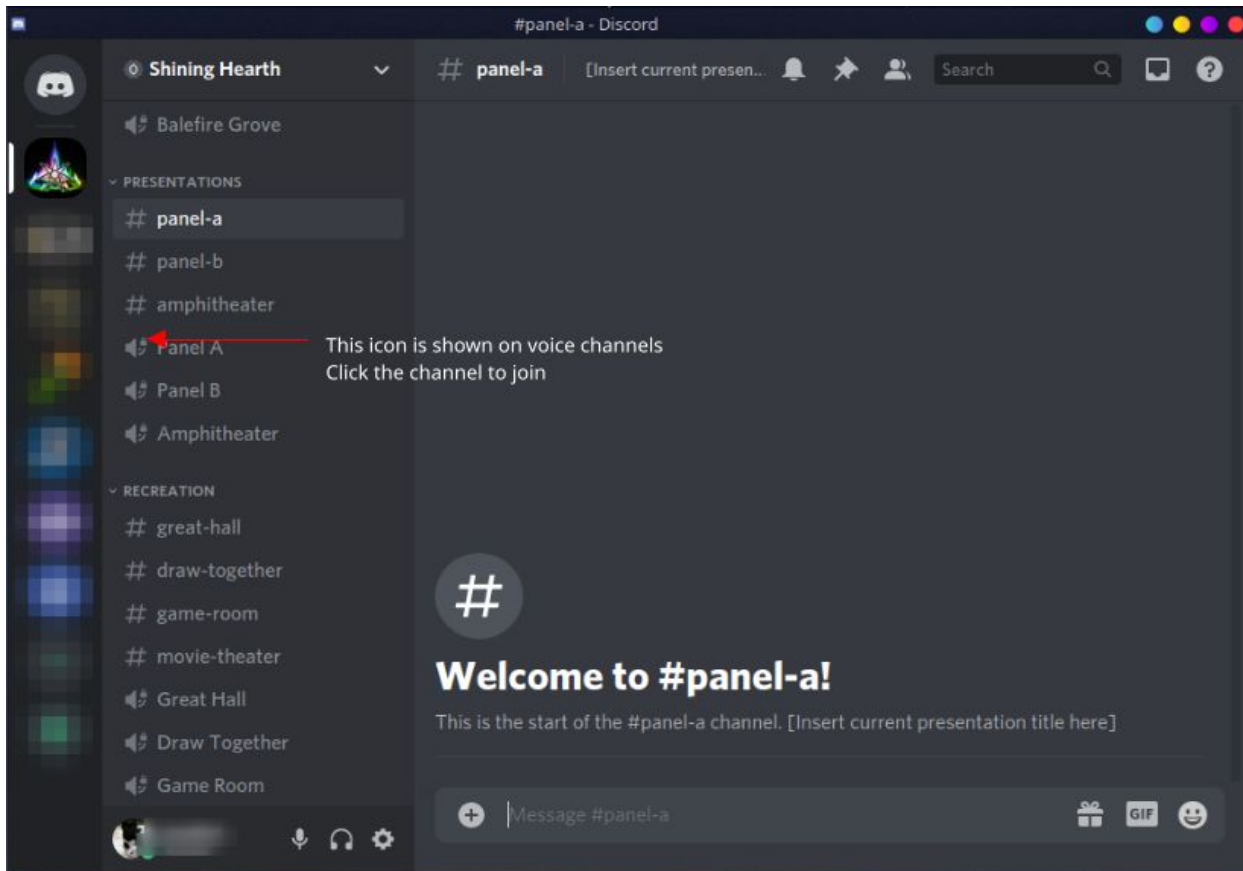
Voice Chat and Video Streaming

Voice chat and video streaming both happen in voice channels.

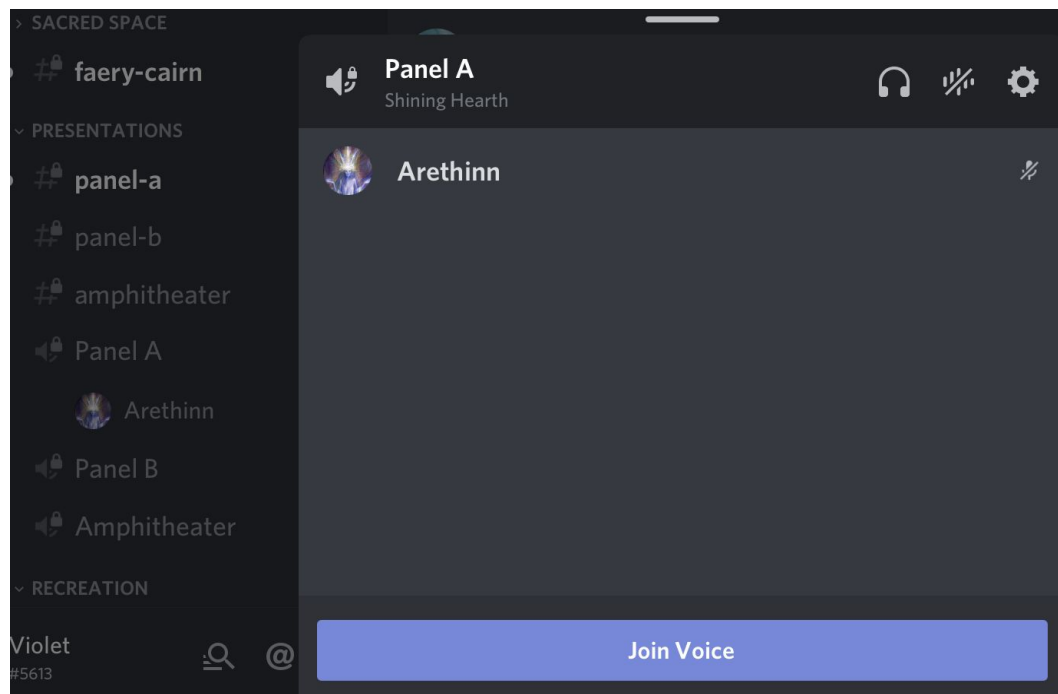
Joining voice chat is easy.



On desktop, simply click on any channel that has the audio/speaker icon.

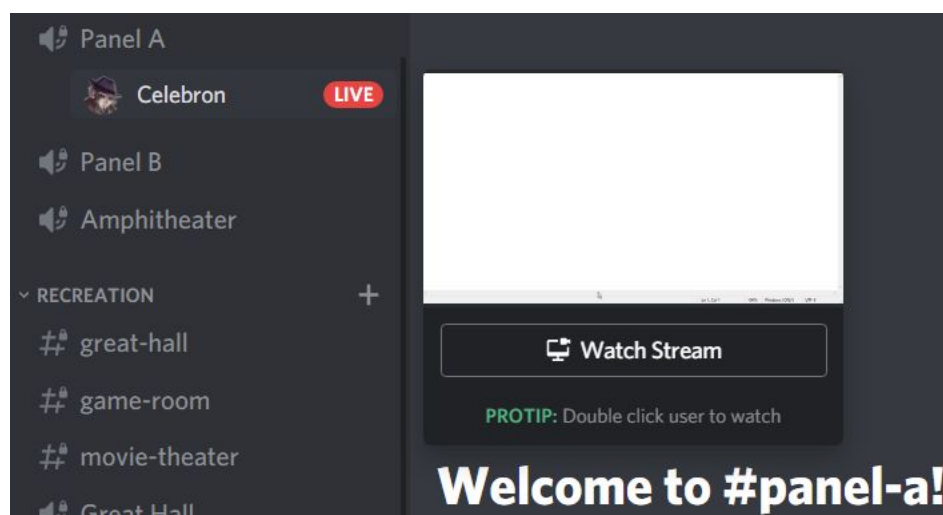


On mobile, tap the channel and then **Join Voice**.

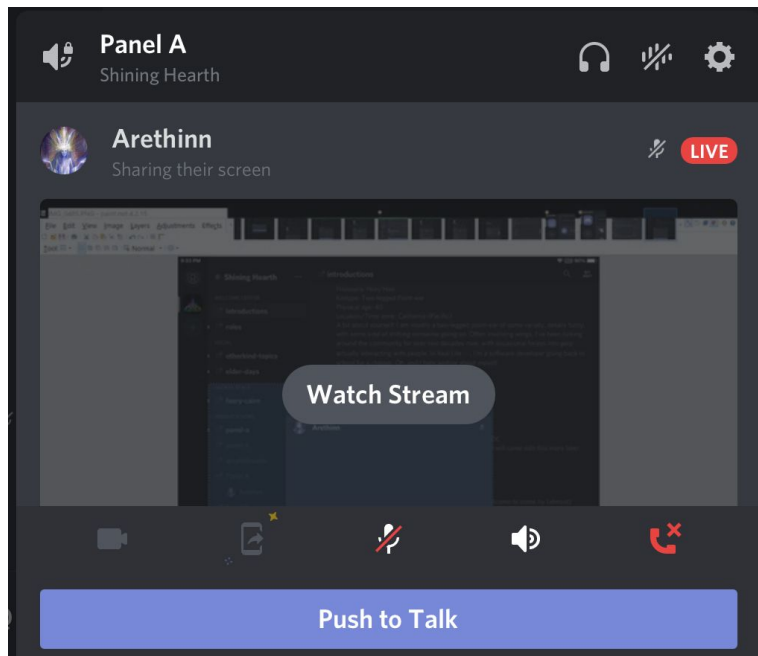


When someone in a voice channel is sharing their screen (for example, a presenter's slideshow), you will see a **LIVE** Live icon next to the name of the person broadcasting.

On desktop, if you hover over their name in the list of people connected to a voice channel, you will get this popup:




On mobile, tap the user's name in the voice channel list to get this:



Click/tap **Watch Stream**. If you were not already in that voice channel, you will automatically join it.


If you are already in the voice channel when someone starts a screen share, you won't automatically be connected to the stream. Just hover/tap the user's name and **Watch Stream** as described above.



If someone is broadcasting their camera, you will see an icon of a video camera  next to their name. To see their video, just join the voice channel they are in. (Unlike screen sharing, you will automatically see the video.)



While watching a video stream, the controls will automatically hide after a few seconds. To bring them back, move your mouse or tap anywhere on the screen.


To leave a voice channel, click/tap the red Disconnect button at the bottom of the screen.

On desktop you can also click Disconnect above your name and picture at the bottom left, even when you don't have the voice channel focused:

 **Video Connected**
Panel A / Shining Hearth

 Video  Screen

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